# A MARVELOUS YEAR

**Momentous Events of the Past Twelve Months.**

## MAGNITUDE OF THE CHANGES

**Effected in the Relations of the United States to the Rest of the World—The Great Achievements in the Financial and Industrial Affairs of the Country—Material Progress of the Land.**

New York Journal of Commerce: It will require some stretch of historical perspective to enable the American people fully to appreciate the magnitude of the changes that the past year has wrought. There has been a radical change in the relations of the United States to the rest of the world, as well as in the views of the rest of the world in regard to the United States. All the essential elements of national greatness which the year has brought into prominence existed before. They are the normal results of the amazing progress of a free people engaged in the development of a country the variety and extent of whose material resources are even more remarkable than its amplitude. But it had not occurred to other nations, indeed it had hardly occurred to ourselves, to reckon the United States among the Great Powers without whose consent or acquiescence no great change can take place in the dominion of the world. Only two years had passed since Mr. Olney's broad and sweeping declaration in regard to the scope of the Monroe Doctrine had been met with the dissent, none the less emphatic because unofficially expressed, of the Great Powers of Continental Europe. This, however, was accepted as the limit of our policy of intervention in foreign affairs. We were regarded as a people who were bound by a highly venerated traditional policy to abstain from all foreign complications, and whose largest sphere of action, outside of our domestic affairs, related to the exclusion of any new form of European influence from the political system of the sovereign states of this continent. It was recognized that our assertion of a virtually paramount sovereignty in the three Americas—North, Central and South—might have to be challenged some day, but, as outside of Cuba, there was no burning question of international concern which called for action, the somewhat startling claim of the Cleveland administration was laid on the shelf for future reference.

With the destruction of the battleship Maine, in the harbor of Havana, the popular exasperation over the chronic state of anarchy in Cuba, which Spain either would not or could not bring to an end, was enormously increased. That appalling catastrophe brought home to our people, as nothing else had done, the utter hopelessness of further forbearance with the results of Spanish misrule in an island whose nearness to our shores made it impossible for us to regard its condition with indifference. For certain sufficient reasons which did not exist when President Grant proposed joint intervention to restore peace to Cuba twenty-two years before, it was tacitly assumed by our government that we had a perfect right to order Spain to give up the last of her American possessions without consulting anybody. Quite a different impression prevailed in the Chancelleries of Europe. The possession of the key to the Gulf was held to be an international question, about which the commercial nations of Europe might have somethin; to say as well as we, even if they were prepared, as they decidedly were not, to overlook the direct interest which they had in averting the bankruptcy of Spain. If the Monroe Doctrine was a warning to the nations of the Old World to keep their hands off the New, it had also been accompanied by a disclaimer of any desire on our part to disturb the existing colonies of European powers on this side of the Atlantic. Preparations were accordingly made to impose by concerted action of the Great Powers of Europe such limitations as might be deemed necessary on the coercive measures which we were evidently bound to apply to Spain. The fact had been apparently forgotten that the government of Great Britain had, two years before, expressed its readiness to accept the broadest interpretation of the Monroe Doctrine as a rule governing the relations of both countries on this continent. The "Doctrine" was of joint origin, and it was eminently fitting that there should be a joint understanding about the scope of its operations.

It is fair to assume that the attitude which Great Britain would take in regard to our intervention in Cuba was perfectly understood between the representatives of both governments before the difficulty with Spain had entered on its most acute phase. It is certain, however, that it came as a painful surprise to the diplomatists of Continental Europe, and that it operated as a most unwelcome bar to the execution of their plans. These were, accordingly, quietly and promptly dropped, since the next best thing to executing them was to be able to challenge proof that they had ever been contemplated. Yet, little as they were known or heard of, they were the means of bringing about one of the most momentous changes of modern history. As lately as December, 1895, the two great branches of the English-speaking family had been brought to the verge of war, yet here in April, 1898, came the demonstration that they were ready to stand by each other against the world. Ten years' interchange of sentiments of mutual esteem could not have brought about any such cordial understanding as resulted from this one piece of solid fact, that in driving Spain out of Cuba we could count on the sympathy and approval, and, if need were, the support of England, alone among the nations of the world. It was promptly recognized by every fair-minded American that but for this detachment of England from the concert of Europe the task we had set for ourselves might have exceeded our strength. But little reflection was needed to demonstrate the value of maintaining such an understanding as that which had so opportunely asserted itself, and to perceive the suicidal folly of perpetuating grounds of difference or animosity between two nations neither of whom could be weakened without impairing the strength of both. It was thus that one of the greatest triumphs which have attended the war with Spain was accomplished before the war began, and that one of the most precious legacies which a year of military and naval success will transmit to remotest posterity is a solid guarantee for the maintenance of peace.

If the future relations between Great Britain and the United States were profoundly affected by the course of events on this continent, they were even more powerfully influenced by the first signal success of the war. Admiral Dewey's memorable victory in Manila Bay will occupy a no less unique place in political history than it does in naval annals; for it thrust upon the United States the necessity of recognizing the full measure of its responsibilities as a great Pacific power. There had been some feeble recognition of these several months before, when a conflict seemed imminent between the forces arrayed on the side of commercial exclusion and those working for commercial freedom in China. But there had been only a partial apprehension of the fact that it was as much our duty and interest as it was Great Britain's to stand for the "open door," and there had come from the head of our department of state and from some of the leaders in Congress depressingly feeble statements in regard to our national obligations in the Far East. After the epoch-making event of May 1 it was never for a moment doubtful that the sovereignty of the United States would be extended over the Philippines, and that their possession would give this country a new status in dealing with the powers which seemed bent on the partition of China. On May 3 this statement was made in these columns: "However disconcerting our virtual possession of Manila may be to the plans which are forming for a rearrangement of the distribution of European influence in Eastern Asia, we must deal with it not only as an element in the ultimate settlement of our quarrel with Spain, but as a factor in the protection of our interests in that part of the world." On May 4 we said, in referring to the place of the United States as a world power: "Even as we are discussing whether it would be well to break through it, our national isolation is at an end. With, however, little consideration of the consequences it involved, this government and people set themselves to do what they believe to be the work of civilization, and they have hardly put their hand to it before an indefinite vista of new responsibilities opens up before them. It is a work from which there can be no turning aside." These views were not so extensively shared at the time of their publication as they are today, but they stand as part of a historic record in whose continuity there has been no break. Events moved so rapidly that it is not singular that their full significance was not at once generally recognized; but the further we become separated from them the more irresistible must appear to be the combination of forces that have lifted the United States into a new position, alike in the eyes of its own people and of the world at large.

The evidences of material progress which the year has furnished have been only less marvelous than its phases of historic evolution. The figures of our export trade in 1898 are beyond all precedent; the sum of the bank clearances is without previous example; the price of cotton has never been so low, nor has that of pig iron or steel rails. The temporary interruption which the war with Spain imposed on certain branches of business has not sensibly affected the sum of the year's transactions, and the outlook in all the chief departments of industry is good for a period of sustained activity. Not the least remarkable of the achievements of the year has been the success with which the exports of domestic manufactures have been increased. In several of the great staples of manufacture we have secured an advantage over all competitors, which is, every month, becoming more manifest. This is notably the case in all departments of the iron and steel industry—in builders' hardware, in machinery, electrical equipment, locomotive engines and steel rails.

Another notable gain of the year has been the disappearance of the free silver agitation as a disturbing influence in politics. The "cause" is not dead yet by any means, but its power for mischief has been almost wholly destroyed. It has suffered defeat in states which were among its strongholds, and has been deserted by politicians who were among its champions. A permanent reform of our currency system is still hindered by the demands of political expediency, but there is a steady approach toward agreement on its main essentials, and, with the increase of sound money votes in the senate, there is a growing probability that it may shortly be accomplished. The railroad business of the year has been very heavy, but much of it has been done at unremunerative rates. The dissolution of the Joint Traffic Association, in conformity with the adverse decision of the supreme court, has removed the last barrier to the pernicious system of rate-cutting and of special rebates to large shippers. There is no problem awaiting solution in the new year more important to the business interests of the country than that which relates to the establishment of some coherent system of railroad management, under which the published rates for transportation shall be honestly and impartially maintained. The process of reorganizing the bankrupt railroad corporations of the country is pretty nearly complete, and it needs only the establishment of responsible methods of administration to insure satisfactory returns for the enormous aggregate of capital invested in the business of internal transportation. The fact that public sentiment is coming around to the conclusion that there can be no assured prosperity while unregulated competition is the rule among common carriers is a fair guarantee that the chief menace to the financial stability of the immediate future will be successfully removed.

### "Thinkin' of the old Un."

Providence Journal: These are hard times for the friends of Spain. The Boston Transcript is plunged in the deepest grief because of the heartlessness of the United States. "What a pity it is," it cries, "that in the flush of victory this country could not have had to her credit one act of magnanimity, one instance of generosity!" And, like Senor Rios, it denounces "the hard, grinding, grasping policy that has demanded more and more." What is worst, of all we have not absolved Spain from all complicity in the destruction of the Maine. "We leave our victim, decrepit and resourceless, not by any means like the good Samaritan in the story." No wonder that the anti-imperialists of Boston weep salt tears over the national infamy. The relief from an indemnity and the payment of $20,000,000 for the Philippines do not count, of course; that is only a part of a "hard, grasping, grinding policy." It would be useless to ask the anti-imperialists to cheer up. They know that Mr. Cleveland would not have been capable of the wickedness which his successor has committed, and, like Mrs. Gummidge, they are very melancholy when they are "thinkin' of the Old Un."

## REGAINED HEALTH.

**Gratifying Letters to Mrs. Pinkham From Happy Women.**

**"I Owe You My Life."**

Mrs. E. WOOLHISER,
Mills, Neb., writes:

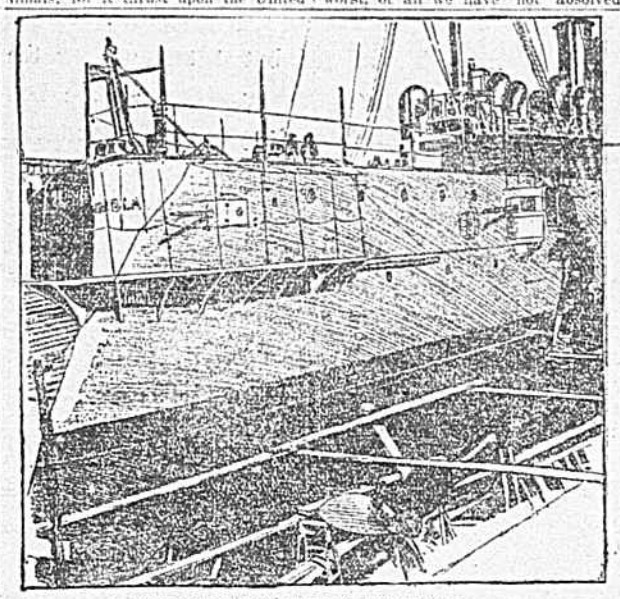
"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I owe my life to your Vegetable Compound. The doctors said I had consumption and nothing could be done for me. My menstruation had stopped and they said my blood was turning to water. I had several doctors. They all said I could not live. I began the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and it helped me right away; menses returned and I have gained in weight. I have better health than I have had for years. It is wonderful what your Compound has done for me."

**"I Feel Like a New Person."**

Mrs. GEO. LEACH,
1609 Belle St., Alton, Ill., writes:

"Before I began to take your Vegetable Compound I was a great sufferer from womb trouble. Menses would appear two and three times in a month, causing me to be so weak I could not stand. I could neither sleep nor eat, and looked so badly my friends hardly knew me.

"I took doctor's medicine but did not derive much benefit from it. My druggist gave me one of your little books, and after reading it I decided to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I feel like a new person. I would not give your Compound for all the doctors' medicine in the world. I can not praise it enough."



THE MASSACHUSETTS IN DRY DOCK.

It is a pathetic sight to see a great cruiser lifted high and dry above the water, sick and helpless; but such is the Massachusetts now. Since its accident it has been in dry dock for repairs, and its bottom, which suffered the most, is being renewed. The Massachusetts did good work in Cuba, and is one of the best cruisers in the navy. She will be in shape in a few days.

### THE LARGER HALF.

**The Same in Wheeling as Elsewhere.**

The bigger half of worldly trouble,
The greater part of mankind's suffering,
Can safely be laid to the kidneys.
Kidneys filter the blood.
Keep the human system healthy.
But they can't do this when they're sick.
Easy to tell sick kidneys.
Look to the back for the note of warning.
Most backache pains are kidney ills.
Twitches, twinges, pains and aches of a bad back,
Should be treated promptly.
Every day's delay means future trouble.
Urinary complications set in, diabetes, Bright's disease.
Doan's Kidney Pills are kidney specialists.
Cure every form of kidney ills.
Proof of this in Wheeling testimony.

Mrs. William Slater, of No. 4110 Wood street, says: "I met with an accident getting a severe fall when stepping off a street car. It is to that I attribute all my trouble I had with my kidneys. I suffered with a constant aching and soreness across my back and weakness so that the slightest jar would cause twinges of pain and at times I could scarcely get up or down. Along with it there was a urinary weakness and heavy bearing down pains in the bladder. When I got Doan's Kidney Pills at the Logan Drug Company, I was so used up that I could scarcely get around. I began taking them and felt relieved almost at once. I continued their use until I felt well and hearty like my old self. I can honestly recommend Doan's Kidney Pills to others knowing them to be all they are represented to be."

Doan's Kidney Pills for sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Mailed by Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no substitute.

ONLY $6.60 to Cincinnati via Ohio River R. R.

## MAGNETISM IN BRICKS.

**Interesting Experiments Made at the Rochester University.**

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle: Probably the idea that a humble red brick would ever play any part in electrical experiments has occurred to few. However, this is just what a certain lot of bricks composing a pier at the Reynolds Laboratory did and will continue to do as long as they are within reasonable distance of the delicate electrical instruments used in the laboratory. A suspicion that the above contingency might exist has been in the mind of Prof. Henry E. Lawrence, of the University of Rochester, for some time past. That it is a reality he now feels sure, and the methods he used to come to that conclusion are most interesting.

The professor in collaboration with Otis A. Gage, a special student in electricity, began a series of experiments covering some months. The performance of the magnetometer, which was used in measuring the magnetic power of a steel bar, was the first cause for suspecting that the bricks were other than what would their appearance would lead one to think. The magnetometer had rested on a brick pier for the purpose of making it plumb. Not long after Professor Lawrence, while in Ann Arbor, heard of a similar experience occurring there. On his return the experiments went on with more zeal than ever. Bricks of all varieties were put through any number of tests, and the great majority were found to be magnetic. Those manufactured by water power, known as "hydraulic" bricks, proved to be exceedingly strong, one equalling the power of a steel needle 2.3 centimeters in length. The same block of clay would make noticeable deflections in comparatively crude instruments, while delicate ones would flutter perceptibly.

One of the bricks, a plain white one, hydraulically pressed, possessed no magnetism. A certain amount of lime enters into the composition of a white brick, such as was used, and its presence undoubtedly had much to do with the absence of magnetic power. It was discovered that the bricks gained magnetism in the presence of a dynamo, though the surrounding of the bricks by wire coils made no perceptible difference. Heating the bricks served in a measure to decrease the magnetism, though in each case a minute amount was retained.

To just what cause this is due neither gentleman is ready to state. It is the present opinion, however, that there is more or less magnetite in the clay of which the bricks are made. The mode of manufacturing is also thought to have something to do with the phenomena. As stated above, the presence of lime served to decrease the magnetism, while the absence allowed of greater power. The professor thinks the importance of his discovery obvious. The slightest trace of unsuspected magnetic power in the structural part of a laboratory is necessarily fatal to nicety of electrical measurements.

That clay, when worked over so little by human agency, gathers magnetic properties has been thought for some time. Eminent Italian scientists have made innumerable experiments in that line during the past half dozen years. Their greatest proof was found by experimenting with several examples of ancient pottery, which had been buried for centuries. Crude as they were, magnetism was found to exist in no uncertain quantities.

### Beats the Klondike.

Mr. A. C. Thomas, of Marysville, Tex., has found a more valuable discovery than has yet been made in the Klondike. For years he suffered untold agony from consumption, accompanied by hemorrhages; and was absolutely cured by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. He declares that gold is of little value in comparison with this marvelous cure; would have it, even if it cost a hundred dollars a bottle. Asthma, Bronchitis and all throat and lung affections are positively cured by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. Trial bottles free at Logan Drug Co.'s Drug Store. Regular size 50 cents and $1.00. Guaranteed to cure or price refunded. 2

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### FLORIDA, HAVANA, NASSAU.

**Double Daily Trains from Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis and Kansas City via the Southern Railroad.**

The Southern railway and connections have arranged, for the accommodation of travel to the south this winter, the best service ever offered. Beginning December 4th, additional through Sleeping Car service will be established from Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis and Kansas City to Jacksonville, with through connections, without layover, from each of these points for trains leaving both morning and evening.

Time, Cincinnati and Louisville to Jacksonville, 25 hours; Havana 55 hours.

All ticket agents sell one-way and round-trip tickets to southern resorts via Southern Railway.

Ask your nearest ticket agent for rates and other information, or write C. A. BAIRD, Trav. Pass. Agent, Louisville, Ky.; J. C. BEAM, jr., N. W. Pass. Agt., 80 Adams St., Chicago, Ill.; WM. H. TAYLOE, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Louisville, Ky.

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"LITTLE Colds" neglected — thousands of lives sacrificed every year. Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup cures little colds—cures big colds, too, down to the very verge of consumption. 3